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HOLLAND.—A decree of the minister of the interior, dated September 21, based on the royal edict of September 12, forbids the importation of rags, worn garments, and soiled linen from Bombay, Calcutta, Cape Town, and Port Elizabeth. Travelers' baggage falls under this prohibition so far as it relates to unwashed body and bed linen.

Respectfully,

FRANK H. MASON,
United States Consul-General.

The SURGEON-GENERAL,
U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.

Sanitary condition of Berlin.

BERLIN, GERMANY, October 10, 1901.

SIR: I have the honor to submit the following health statistics as published in the Berlin Lokal Anzeiger of this date:

The sanitary condition of Berlin was somewhat less favorable during the week ended September 28, than in the foregoing week. The mortality was also higher, being 16.4 per 1,000. More than half of the large German cities, as well as Copenhagen and Stockholm, had a higher rate of mortality than Berlin. Of the 601 deaths registered during the week, 200 were children in their first year. The increase in the number of deaths by 42 as compared with the previous week was due, for the most part, to the more frequent deaths among sucklings. Among persons of more advanced age, no important difference in the rate of mortality was to be noted. Acute diseases of the intestines still continue to claim the greatest number of victims (80). They were, however, less frequent than during the foregoing week, and remained for the first time since the beginning of July under the average mortality rate. Acute diseases of the respiratory organs, of which 42 persons died, were also less frequent than in the third September week. Up to this date only a few sporadic cases of influenza have occurred; 2 cases, however, ended in death. There were also 59 deaths from consumption. Cases of measles were few, causing only 1 death as compared with 4 deaths in the foregoing week. There were 24 cases of typhoid fever, but 7 of the 65 patients of the two previous weeks died. The cases of scarlet fever (35), and diphtheria (62), were also less than in the foregoing week, but the deaths from scarlet fever increased to 11, and from diphtheria to 16. Seventeen persons died a violent death, of which 8 perished by suicide.

Respectfully,

FRANK H. MASON,
United States Consul-General at Berlin.

The SURGEON-GENERAL,
U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.

Plague in Italy—Typhoid fever in Gelsenkirchen.

[Clipping from the Berlin Lokal-Anzeiger, October 8, 1901.]

The plague in Naples.

BERLIN, GERMANY, October 8, 1901.

ITALY.—Yesterday, unhappily, a new case of plague was reported. A correspondent wires us from Naples that the patient, a young girl, was taken to the hospital at Nisida, her relatives have been isolated and the house in which they lived has been disinfected. With the exception of this one, no further case has occurred either in Naples or in the province. All the isolated persons are well and some of them have already been released from surveillance.